



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2017

- [Grant opportunity to help small Iowa communities with abandoned commercial properties](#)
- [DNR enforcement actions](#)

Grant opportunity to help small Iowa communities with abandoned commercial properties

MEDIA CONTACT: Scott Flagg, Iowa DNR, at 515-725 8318
or Scott.Flagg@dnr.iowa.gov

DES MOINES-- Funding is still available to Iowa communities with populations of 5,000 or smaller to inspect and properly remove asbestos from abandoned commercial buildings.

The funds, from the DNR's [Derelict Building Grant Program](#), allow eligible communities to investigate the amount of asbestos present in a building, determine the physical characteristics and stability of these structures by completing structural engineering assessments, and abate identified asbestos.

"If a building collapses and the presence of asbestos is unknown, it can increase the economic burden on the community," said the DNR's Scott Flagg. "In addition, a building's appearance may not reveal the actual condition of the structure. Building assessments can assist communities determine how best to address an abandoned building."

The Derelict Building Grant Program provides small communities and rural counties financial assistance for abandoned commercial and public structures, which can improve the appearance of their streets, revitalize local economies and alleviate the environmental concerns these buildings can pose. Projects selected may apply for funding in 2018 for additional program-related tasks like building removal or building renovation.

For more information and to obtain an application on the Derelict Building Grant Program, contact Scott Flagg at 515-725-8318 or Scott.Flagg@dnr.iowa.gov.

\$50,000 is available for assistance and applications will be accepted until funds are expended.

DNR enforcement actions

MEDIA CONTACT: Ed Tormey, DNR, at 515-725-8373 or Ed.Tormey@dnr.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/AboutDNR/EnforcementActions.aspx.

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Hardin County

Centrum Valley Farms, LLP

Provide proper disposal of ashes and other waste at facility and pay \$8,000 penalty

Ida County

Terry Lovett, dba The Kwiki Car Wash and Avenue Car Wash

Cease illegal discharges to waters of the State and pay \$5,000 penalty

Jasper County

John DeVries

Cease open burning of solid wastes and pay \$2,000 penalty. \$1,000 of penalty payment to be made to Jasper County Conservation Board, to be utilized pursuant to the terms of its Supplemental Environmental Project agreement with DNR.

Webster County

Steve Grettenberg

Pay \$4,500 penalty for manure management plan violations.